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ELEVENTH BIENNIAL REPORT

UNIV. OF MINN.

APR 2 1908

OF THE

Board of Managers and Super-
intendent of the State
Public School

OF

MINNESOTA

FOR THE

BIENNIAL PERIOD ENDING JULY 31, 1906.

1907
HARRISON & SMITH CO.
MINNEAPOLIS





STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL, OWATONNA.

ELEVENTH BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

Board of Managers and Superintendent of the State
Public School

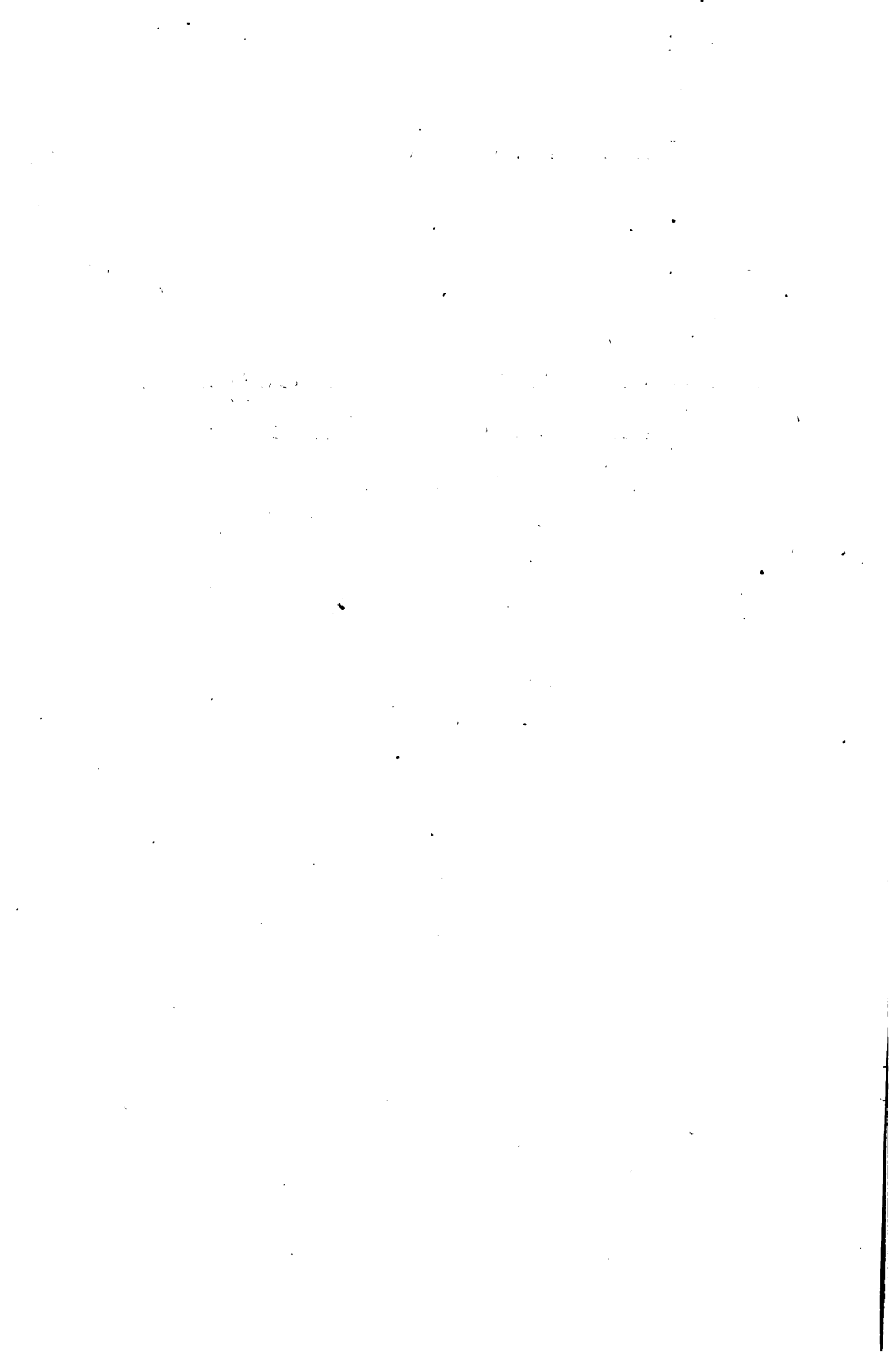
OF

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MINNEAPOLIS



STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS AND SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE Biennial Period Ending July 31, 1906.

To the State Board of Control,

St. Paul, Minnesota.

Gentlemen: I herewith respectfully submit the eleventh biennial report of the State Public School for Dependent and Neglected Children.

Yours very respectfully,

GALEN A. MERRILL, Superintendent.

Information in detail as to the number of children received and cared for in the school, the number placed out and supervised in homes, and the cost of the same for each of the two years, and a resume of the work of twenty years, is presented as follows:

August 1, 1904 to July 31, 1905		
Present August 1, 1904.....	194	
Admitted First Time:		
Boys	150	
Girls	112.	
	_____	262
Readmitted:		
Returned from trial—		
Boys	14	
Girls	19	
	_____	33
Returned from indenture—		
Boys	70	
Girls	58	
	_____	128
	_____	161
Total number cared for.....		617

August 1, 1905 to July 31, 1906		
Present August 1, 1905.....	266	
Admitted First Time:		
Boys	145	
Girls	117	
	_____	262
Readmitted:		
Returned from trial—		
Boys	27	
Girls	48	
	_____	75
Returned from indenture—		
Boys	50	
Girls	55	
	_____	105
	_____	180
Total number cared for.....		708

A-7-1-17-112. State Public School 4-2-189.

August 1, 1904 to July 31, 1905

Cost	\$43,630.39	
Cost per capita, total number cared for.....	\$70.71	
Average daily attendance:		
Boys	149	
Girls	85	
	<hr/>	234
Cost per capita, average daily attendance	\$186.45	
Placed Out First Time:		
Boys	118	
Girls	84	
	<hr/>	202
Replaced—		
Boys	57	
Girls	70	
	<hr/>	127
Total number placed out....	329	
Average per month	27	
Average Number in Homes:		
On Trial—		
Boys	43	
Girls	32	
	<hr/>	75
On Indenture—		
Boys	681	
Girls	427	
	<hr/>	1,108
		1,183
Average Total Wards:		
Boys	873	
Girls	544	
	<hr/>	1,417
Cost:		
Of school....	\$43,630.39	
State agency	6,319.83	
	<hr/>	\$49,950.22
Cost per capita, total wards	35.25	
Largest number present at any time, July 4, 1905	281	
Smallest number present at any time, August 18, 19, 1904.....	187	
Percent of the average number in homes on indenture, returned...	11.5	
Number of Visits:		
To children in homes..	831	
To applicants for chil- dren	557	
	<hr/>	1,388
Applications for children received	576	
Applications approved, 50% of number received	291	

August 1, 1905 to July 31, 1906

Cost	\$43,494.50	
Cost per capita, total number cared for.....	\$61.43	
Average daily attendance:		
Boys	150	
Girls	71	
	<hr/>	221
Cost per capita, average daily attendance.....	\$196.80	
Placed Out First Time:		
Boys	156	
Girls	139	
	<hr/>	295
Replaced—		
Boys	107	
Girls	99	
	<hr/>	206
Total number placed out	501	
Average per month.....	41	
Average Number in Homes:		
On Trial—		
Boys	65	
Girls	55	
	<hr/>	120
On Indenture—		
Boys	691	
Girls	457	
	<hr/>	1,148
		1,268
Average Total Wards:		
Boys	906	
Girls	582	
	<hr/>	1,488
Cost:		
Of school....	\$43,494.50	
State agency	6,378.88	
	<hr/>	\$49,873.38
Cost per capita, total wards	33.52	
Largest number present at any time, November 13, 14, 15, 1905.....	276	
Smallest number present at any time, May 5, 6, 1905	181	
Percent of the average number in homes on indenture, returned...	9	
Number of Visits:		
To children in homes	825	
To applicants for chil- dren	568	
	<hr/>	1,393
Applications for children received	686	
Applications approved, 43% of number received	295	

RESUME OF TWENTY YEARS.

Received, July 31, 1906		3,234
In homes on indenture	1,244	
In homes on trial	74	
In homes, adopted.....	117	
In homes, restored to parents	148	
	<hr/>	1,583
Attained majority and self-supporting.....		1,190
Died in homes and in school.....		124
Returned to counties from which they came because improper subjects for this school.....		139
Present July 31, 1906		198
	<hr/>	3,234
Average age of children when received years....		6
Average time of residence of children in the school before being placed in homes.....		6.5

MOVEMENT OF POPULATION.

The activities of the institution during the two years are indicated by the foregoing figures. In comparison with former years the number of children cared for is considerably larger. It will be noted that the number received for the first time during each of the two years is exactly the same and that the number returned from homes increased slightly the last year. This increase, however, is not larger than should be expected, in view of the larger number placed out. Indeed, the number returned seems small when we consider the large number out in homes and subject to return. The average of yearly returns for ten years has been ten percent of the number out, while for the last year it was only nine percent, an indication that the children are well situated.

The number received for the first time during the last two years exceeds that of the preceding two years by 222 and of any preceding like period in the history of the school by 102. The record shows 542 as the largest, and 346 as the average number received annually from all sources for ten years. So it appears that the 542 received from all sources last year is a considerable increase over the number received in any previous year. The efficiency of county commissioners and others in rescuing dependent and neglected children affects the number received at this school. Activity in such work on the part of county authorities who send children to the school results in an increase in the number received and the increase of the last two years need not be taken as an indication that the number of children to be cared for at public expense is unduly increasing in this State, but rather as an indication that such children as are in need of the State's care are receiving it. In Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth the Humane Societies are active in rescuing children from abuse and neglect, and many of the children received from the cities come through the efforts of these organizations.

The probation officers of the cities, who are charged with the duty of bringing to the school the children committed to it by the juvenile courts, also investigate many cases and begin proceedings for the commitment of the children.

Notwithstanding the increased number received, the average number maintained in the institution has not increased but slightly decreased

during the last two years, as a result of the efforts put forth to secure homes for the children and place them out. The record of our placing-out work indicates that diligence has been exercised and a larger number placed than ever before in the same length of time, the number placed the last year being 501. While this is true, thoroughness has characterized our investigations of the homes before the children were placed. The fact that no child should be placed with people unfit to rear children has been kept in mind, and under the careful methods of selection pursued less than one-half of the applications received have been approved.

The number of children cared for in the school is large, much larger than the number in daily attendance, so rapidly does the population change. The number that received temporary care last year was 708, an excess of 120 over any previous year.

The attendance necessarily varies from day to day as the children come and go. The number present sometimes varies enough in a month's time to vacate or fill a cottage. As many as 77 children have been placed out in one month. But there is also a constant influx so that we have not always been able to avoid a crowded condition as the figures given indicate, the number present reaching 281 for two or three days in August last year, while the number ought not to exceed 250. Relief from such condition soon follows, however. The number present was reduced to 181 in May of this year, the average number present for the year being 221. The average daily attendance for the last ten years has been 233.

The replacing of children returned to the school after having been placed is often a harder task than to place them in the first instance. However, in many instances it is through no fault of the child that he is returned.

When a child is placed in a home, a trial period is given, during which the foster-parents may return him at will, but after the expiration of the trial period permission must be obtained from the superintendent before he is returned. Such permission is readily granted when conditions in the foster home have become disturbed and are such as to render longer residence there unpleasant or injurious to the child. The right to recall children whenever their interests require it is always reserved as a safeguard against possible ill-treatment. Under these provisions children are returned to the school and replaced or transferred directly to other homes.

The number under supervision in homes has steadily increased until it has reached 1,268, the daily average for the last year, and it will continue to increase until the number that annually pass beyond our guardianship through legal adoption, restoration to parents, becoming of age, etc., equals the number received. That time has not yet come.

The very important work of placing out and supervising the children in homes requires no less time and no less effort on the part of the superintendent than the management of the institution which receives and prepares the children to be placed out.

THE STATE AGENCY.

The State Agency, through which the placing-out work is done has been well maintained. But with so many children to place and with so many in homes to visit, there is much to be done, more than can be perfectly done by our present corps of agents, which consists of three regular agents and one traveling attendant. Mr. Lewis, Mr. Jager, Miss Swindlehurst and Mrs. Lewis continue their services in this department to our satisfaction. Through their labors, which never cease, we have been able to keep the number in the institution down and to give careful supervision to the children in homes in greatest need of attention. Adequate supervision of all of the children now out in homes and the personal investigation of all homes desiring to take children from the school would require more help than we now have. Important as this is, we have no hesitancy in saying that additional help should be provided in this department. Another agent should be at work now. The children in homes should be visited at least once a year until by repeated visits through a term of years it has been determined that such visits are no longer necessary, and more frequent visits to such as need them should be made. A child should receive his first visit during the first few months in the home or soon after he gets acquainted so that speedy removals from all ill-chosen homes may be accomplished. He should also be visited about the time the indenture expires to insure a satisfactory settlement.

The settlement of indentures, the investigation of complaints, the pacification of the discontented and unsettled and similar special work must be done promptly. The special work, now that many of the indentures have run the full term, takes more time than formerly, and on account of this the work of our State Agency is increasing in somewhat greater ratio than the number of children to be visited in homes is increasing.

As has been indicated, our State Agents are also charged with the duty of personally investigating the homes of applicants for children. And after years of experience we think this is of such importance as to require a personal visit by an agent to every family before its application for a child may be favorably passed upon. In this way only can the motive of the applicant and his qualifications for the duties of parenthood be understood.

Ninety percent of the children in homes are at an average distance of about one hundred miles from the school. Ten percent are scattered at greater distances, though most of them are in Minnesota, state lines being observed in placing them, to be consistent with the law restricting non-resident organizations in placing children in this state. Families which take children while residents of this state, and subsequently move to another state, however, are permitted to take the children with them, supervision being continued.

For convenience in assigning work to the several agents, the territory in which our children are placed is divided into eleven districts. The agents are assigned to these districts so that the children in each are visited at intervals by the different agents successively. A written report of each visit, giving the agent's opinion of the home and the condi-

tion of the child, is made and filed. In this way the opinions of all our agents of each home are in due time received and filed to be referred to when needed.

There is the closest co-operation between the superintendent and the agents. Mr. Lewis is also the assistant superintendent. All agents work under the advice and direction of the superintendent. They familiarize themselves with the children in the institution, their conduct and standing in school so as to exercise reliable judgment in making selections for homes. Intelligent care in this regard may avoid mistakes which are almost certain to result if careless methods prevail.

The placing-out work of the State Public School does not hold a subordinate place in the organization of the institution; in fact all other departments are so adjusted as to promote the work of the placing-out agency. The additional help which we have suggested for this department would improve the service and assist in keeping the Minnesota placing-out system at its best.

SCHOOL WORK.

As has been shown, the institutional training given the children is not extended over a long period and is preparatory to their going into suitable homes, so the curriculum of the school is shaped to that end. The training that our children receive in our day school classes, which are conducted ten months in the year, is of the highest practical value to them. The pupils are graded and when they go out can enter corresponding grades in the public schools and go on with their classes without difficulty. Six teachers are employed, and the several classes under their charge are instructed in sloyd, domestic science, kindergarten, vocal music and the subjects in the primary, intermediate and grammar grades. All of the children in the institution over four years of age are included in these classes, the kindergarten including those from four to six. There are always many little boys present that belong in the first grade, and the primary room is generally full. Such little boys are harder to place than the older ones and they accumulate. Besides the instruction given in sloyd and domestic science, the engineering department, the greenhouse, farm and gardens, afford means of industrial training that is valuable.

The discipline in a school like this is not as difficult as in schools of older children. A kindly atmosphere pervades the school and the whole institution. While obedience to proper authority is required, whipping and other severe forms of punishment are not necessary and are not used. Encouragement for right doing and the rewards which follow good conduct are made prominent, and are effective with our little people. Occupation is a very important factor in the discipline of the school. Each child old enough has his hours for work, for study and for play, and with the constant attention of those in charge there is little opportunity for conduct that calls for punishment. Things impossible to little children are not required.

The playground has no small influence upon the discipline and upon the physical and mental development of the children. The value of directed play is recognized, as our well equipped playgrounds attest.

That our school work is up to date and interesting is shown by the report of Miss Goodman, our principal of schools, herewith presented.

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

The older children attend religious services in the several churches of Owatonna, many of them being members of the churches they attend. Those who do not go to church in the city meet in the school chapel every Sunday morning at ten-thirty, where religious instruction is given; not denominational—but the general religious instruction suited to all children. There is taught love to God and love to man, respect for labor, obedience to law and order, and all the virtues that follow in the train of these.

Special temperance exercises are frequently held at this hour. These morning exercises are conducted by our teachers and state agents.

Every Sunday afternoon at three o'clock a Sunday School is held, conducted by the superintendent, assisted by the teachers, state agents who may be present, and others. Ministers and interested members of the several churches of Owatonna often come in and give valuable assistance.

Christmas, New Year's, Fourth of July and Thanksgiving Day are appropriately and enthusiastically observed and thoroughly enjoyed by the children. Also Decoration Day, Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays, and those of other worthy characters are observed with special exercises.

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

The farm has usually been a source of some profit, but some years the profit has been small. The last two years have been unfavorable seasons for the farm work on account of the wet weather which has caused the quack grass, with which this and nearly every farm in this vicinity is more or less infested, to spread and become a nuisance. The condition of the land makes necessary twice the amount of labor to cultivate it that would otherwise be required. Table No. 1, appended hereto, is the farm account for the last two years.

The fine herd of Holstein cows produces good milk in abundance, a very important and necessary article of food for our little children. The cows have occasionally been examined and a tuberculin test of each animal made. Such an examination has just been completed and every animal found to be in perfect health. About forty cows are kept.

Vegetables in great variety, and fruit, including raspberries, strawberries, apples and plums are raised in the gardens, and the children's tables are supplied with them in season. The fruit crops were light this year, however. Flowers and bedding plants and some early vegetables are raised in the little greenhouse, the bedding plants being transplanted to the grounds for decoration in summer.

The farm is also valuable as to means of education to the children. Classes of boys work and receive instruction in the gardens, greenhouse, orchard and on the farm.

More help will be needed on the farm next season if the land is to be thoroughly cultivated and the quack grass exterminated, a necessary

accomplishment if the farm is to be made profitable. At least one more team and another man will be required. With this additional help our efficient farmer, Mr. Munson, will do thorough work in restoring the farm to a better state of cultivation.

HEALTH AND SANITATION.

A valuable feature of the care given the children during their temporary residence in the school is the attention given to their physical needs. A thorough physical examination is made by our physician when the children are received, and their physical defects discovered and remedied as far as possible, medical or surgical treatment being given when needed. Serious defects are often found which are the obvious results of neglect or ill-treatment, or have become serious because of neglect. Enlarged tonsils and adenoid growths which often cause deafness and, if neglected, may seriously affect the development of the child, are frequently discovered and removed. Many cases of defective eyesight have been found and remedied, likewise several cases of defective hearing. Seven bright children with hearing so defective that they could not receive instruction by the usual school methods have been transferred to the School for the Deaf at Faribault. Others, too nearly blind to be taught in this school, have been transferred to the School for the Blind.

In the absence of disease in epidemic form which has occasionally invaded the school, good health has generally prevailed.

The report of our physician, Dr. Adair, is presented herewith, and will give more complete information as to the health record of the last two years.

Our sanitary facilities were considered good when they were put in, but they should now be made better. Improvements to the plumbing in several buildings, notably the three old cottages, are about to be made, but the appropriation of \$2,000.00 available for that purpose is insufficient to make all of our plumbing modern and in all respects as it should be. An appropriation for this purpose is recommended elsewhere in this report.

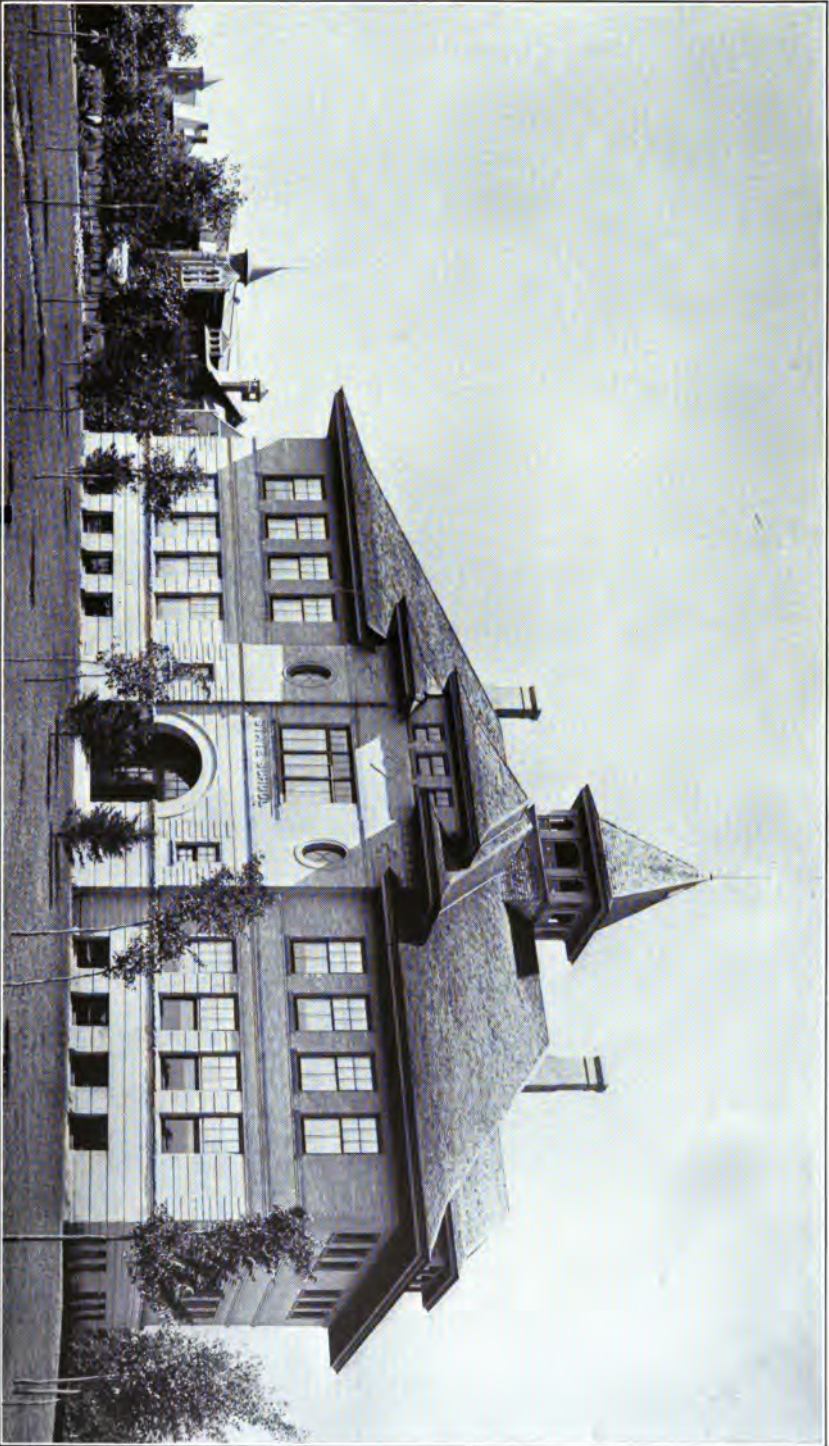
THE JUVENILE COURT LAW.

The law establishing juvenile courts in Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis counties, which was enacted by the last legislature, has been in our opinion beneficial in its effects upon the work of this institution in those counties.

The judges of the district courts preside in these courts, the proceedings being informal and the hearings private. Technicalities and formalities are not allowed to interfere with a kindly examination of each child's case. The hearings resemble a parental inquiry into a child's misfortunes, rather than a proceeding in court.

The number of children received from those counties has been affected considerably in comparison with the number formerly received through the probate courts, many more being received under the new law.

An extension of the powers of the juvenile court to hold parents who neglect their children or contribute to their delinquency amenable would undoubtedly accomplish good results.



STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL, OWATONNA.
SCHOOL BUILDING.

BURNING OF BARN.

The loss of our cow barn by fire September 1, 1905, caused considerable inconvenience. The building was erected in 1887, at a cost of \$2,250, to which had been added a silo at a cost of \$550. Insurance amounting to \$1,908.25 on the building, and \$954.13 on the contents, was received. The insurance, however, was insufficient to build a new barn of the required capacity, but with \$2,800 additional, which the State Board of Control transferred to this fund, a modern barn with cement floors and iron stalls was built, with stabling capacity for 48 cows. The location of the new barn at a distance of about two hundred yards farther to the west than the site of the old one gives greater distance from the other institution buildings and better yards for the stock.

The cause of the fire is unknown. It occurred in the night and when discovered the hay mow and whole interior of the building were ablaze. Our own employes and the Owatonna volunteer fire department responded to the alarm, but the fire had gained such headway that the building could not be saved. Fortunately none of the stock with the exception of two young calves was in the barn that night.

APPROPRIATIONS RECOMMENDED.

Appropriations for support and improvements are recommended as follows:

To be immediately available.

Plumbing and water works	\$2,800.00
Rewiring buildings	500.00
Current expenses	15,000.00
State agency	1,500.00
Total	<u>\$19,800.00</u>

To Be Available August 1, 1907.

Vault fixtures	\$800.00
Dynamos and motors	4,000.00
Steward's office and store room	500.00
Barn and dairy house	4,500.00
Library	250.00
Repairs and betterments	2,500.00
Furniture, including piano, beds and mattresses	2,000.00
Relocating and improving farm buildings	1,000.00
Gymnasium apparatus	200.00
Swimming pool	800.00
Current expenses	45,000.00
State agency	10,000.00
Total	<u>\$71,550.00</u>

To Be Available August 1, 1908.

Mangle	\$1,200.00
Fencing and improvement to cemetery.....	500.00
Cement walks and floors	1,000.00
Extension of tunnels for steam and water pipes	1,800.00
Library	250.00
Improvement to reception cottage	2,000.00
Farm cottage (additional)	1,000.00
Current expenses	45,000.00
State agency	10,000.00
Total	\$62,750.00

Much of the plumbing in our buildings is old and inadequate for present needs and should be remodeled and put in good condition. These improvements have been begun with the small appropriation now available and should be completed as soon as possible to avoid danger from unsanitary conditions. With the amount recommended for plumbing and water works it is proposed to complete the remodeling of the plumbing and to extend our water mains to connect with the water system of the city of Owatonna. The city has laid a 6-inch main to the street in front of the institution grounds. This would afford better fire protection as it would give direct connection with the city water works.

Rewiring of the buildings has been begun but with the \$800 available for that purpose it cannot be completed in all of the buildings requiring it, according to the engineering expert's plans.

New electric apparatus should be installed during the coming year. At present there is but one dynamo in use, which is old and inadequate for the services required. The amount recommended for this purpose is the estimate of Mr. Charles L. Pillsbury, the engineering expert employed by the State Board of Control.

We are constantly inconvenienced by the lack of fixtures in our fire-proof vaults. The amount recommended for this purpose is intended to provide iron fixtures for the main vault and that in the steward's office.

Our store room and steward's office are also inconvenient and inadequate for the proper storing and distribution of supplies, and should be improved.

More barn room is urgently needed. The cow barn affords accommodations for stabling only. Floor space for general use, additional storage room, accommodations for calves and sick animals, dressing room for the milkers and a dairy house are necessities which cannot well be postponed. The plan of Mr. Johnston, State Architect, for an addition to be built on to the south end of the cow barn and for a dairy house to be built at a convenient distance from the barn, contemplates these accommodations. Also, the removal of the old farm buildings, including the horse barn, two implement houses, and hog barn to locations near the new cow barn should be accomplished at an early date.

Much of the furniture in our cottages has become badly worn and shabby through long use and should be replaced with new. The mattresses on most of our beds are made of cotton and are badly worn. They should be replaced with hair mattresses which are more sanitary and

durable. Iron bedsteads are also needed to replace old wooden ones now in use. A piano is also needed for our auditorium and should be included in the estimate for furniture.

With the appropriation for tunnels now available, new tunnels have been put in between the main building and Cottages Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

Tunnels should be put in between Cottages Nos. 5 and 6 and the hospital, a distance of 410 ft.

The small building used as a reception cottage should be enlarged and equipped for the better accommodation of newly admitted children. More sleeping and toilet rooms are required.

The fund for repairs and betterments should be increased to \$2,500 per year for the next two years as some of the brick buildings need re-pointing and many other repairs will be necessary.

No new buildings to increase the capacity of the institution are asked for but there is need of all of the improvements for which appropriations are asked and the amounts named are as small as we think will suffice for the purposes designated.

CONCLUSION.

We would be neglectful if we failed to acknowledge the faithful service rendered by those employed. With few exceptions, all have done commendable work, especially those who have cared for and instructed the children.

The interest shown in our work by Governor Johnson and expressed by him at the time of his visit to the institution is highly appreciated. Also, the efforts of the State Board of Control for the success and advancement of the work and the harmonious relations that have existed between that board and this are gladly acknowledged.

We are pleased to express our appreciation of the co-operation and moral support of the citizens of the State which the State Public School has enjoyed in large measure.

Attention is called to the reports of our state agents, physician and principal of schools and the statistical tables which are appended and submitted as a part of this report.

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Board of Managers,

GALEN A. MERRILL,
Superintendent.

REPORTS OF STATE AGENTS

MR. LEWIS' REPORT.

Mr. Galen A. Merrill, Superintendent.

Dear Sir: I take pleasure in presenting this the seventh report of my work as agent of the State Public School, for the biennial period ending July 31st, 1906.

My work for the two years has been largely in the southern part of the state. In September, 1905, I made a trip through North Dakota, to visit the few children we have in that state.

It is with satisfaction that we note that there is no diminution in the number of applications for our children as time passes. While many applicants have only selfish and mercenary motives, desire to take children for work, for the help they can get, yet many others apply from the kindest and noblest motives. There are many instances where only love and a desire to do God's will have been shown on the part of the people who have applied. This has been noticeably true in cases where babies or very small children were wanted. Only a short time ago I visited a family that had taken a baby and everything in their actions and treatment of the baby indicated that it occupied the same place in their hearts and will receive every care, encouragement and affection that an own child would receive. They are anxious to adopt and have her baptized so as to "bring her up in the fear of the Lord," as they reverently told me.

Much of the future success of a child depends on the unselfish devotion of the foster parents, their patience, judgment and determination to "never give up." Much, if not most, of the difficulty between the children and guardians comes from a lack of judgment in dealing with the children and patience to wait for results. I have frequently been surprised and gratified at results obtained from most ordinary appearing homes. A boy that had been transferred three or four times and each time with a worse record of dishonesty, untrustworthiness and hardened indifference, until we had about determined to return him to his county as incorrigible, was taken by a humble, plain, but good Christian woman. She has been patiently working for two or three years with the result that there is a complete reformation in the boy. He is good, clean, pure, honest, trusty and himself leading a careful Christian life.

The success of our children is cheering. The case of a boy received by us in 1887 has recently come to notice. He was placed in a good Christian family and given a good common school education. Recently I heard of a young man occupying a responsible and honorable position in one of our state institutions, highly esteemed for his integrity and unfailing kindness of heart, and incidentally, financially successful. I learned that at one time he had been in our School and though now known by another name, having been adopted and legally taken the name of his foster parents, he was identified as the same person who came to us so long ago a homeless orphan.

I find in some places an entire misconception of our work, its scope and aim. As far as possible I have endeavored to furnish information and wherever I have spoken the interest manifested has been gratifying. I had the privilege of addressing a meeting of ministers at Waseca and at Ortonville and was gratified at the interest shown, especially at Ortonville, which indicates that we have the confidence and co-operation of the churches throughout the state. We have seen the results of this in the increased number of applications received from that part of the state. The spreading of information about the work of our institution throughout the state would greatly aid us.

Visiting our children has always been a pleasure, but it seems to me it has been more so this period as so many who were small when I first entered the work have grown up. Some have married and are doing well. I have had the pleasure of being entertained by some of our former wards and it is indeed gratifying to see them in their own homes so happy and prosperous. They were placed in good homes several years ago, trained to usefulness and are now taking their places in life as builders instead of destroyers of the commonwealth.

As the end of the year draws near and we begin to contemplate results I am more and more impressed with the wisdom and foresight of the founders of this institution in planning to place children out in homes rather than attempting to keep them in the institution, not only from economical considerations, but because in homes the children are thrown in the conditions which will eventually surround them, are taught industry, frugality and integrity and the constant training of home life which will develop the character necessary to fit them for the battle of life. The places where character can be most successfully formed are in good family homes, and these, for the most of our children, on farms, where the majority of them are placed.

During the two years I have traveled 17,106 miles by train and 4,597 miles by team. This is exclusive of street car travel and on foot. I have visited 541 children, investigated 265 homes of applicants, made 225 visits for consultation and information, transferred and accompanied 72 children.

My expenses were as follows: Street car and railway \$403.32, livery \$445.60, hotel \$380.10, miscellaneous \$11.15. Total expenses including salary \$3,672.96, making the per capita cost of visits \$4.54.

I wish to thank you cordially for the kindness, friendship and consideration you have shown me during all this time.

Trusting that my work has been satisfactory and that it has had an influence for good equal to the interest I have felt, I am,

Very respectfully,

FRANK LEWIS, State Agent.

MISS SWINDLEHURST'S REPORT.

Mr. Galen A. Merrill, Superintendent.

Dear Sir: I herewith respectfully submit my report as state agent for the biennial period ending July 31st, 1906.

During the first months of this biennial period, I was engaged in special work, though I did much regular visiting in connection with each trip.

The causes demanding these special visits for adjustment are almost as varied as the cases themselves. From the incident of the guardian who wanted me to "lay the law down" to her willful charge, to the case of the bright boy who thought his guardian all right in the main but suggested that he did not "understand boys," is a long story of misunderstanding, discouragement, pathos, abuse. Sometimes a short, friendly visit reveals the trouble and serves to readjust the difficulty—again it takes days of patient, nerve-wearing work to get a comprehensive knowledge of the situation and to administer the remedy.

If the special cases were alike, or even if they could be classified under a few heads, this part of the work of the state agency would be simplified. Besides we do not know, except in comparatively few cases from which complaint arises, which are the cases requiring special attention. The agents themselves are often surprised at the regular visits that reveal, from one cause or another, the necessity for special work and the remarkable variety and dissimilarity of these cases.

Much special work refers to the applications of relatives for children of their kinship, committed to the school. These are taxing cases, for our desire is always to see children reared by their own people, but we frequently must reject these applications. It is easy to see that this would be so, for children are rarely committed to institutions till every means has been used to locate and interest responsible relatives who are willing and able to care for their little unfortunates.

In January I was assigned to the regular work of our Third District, comprising Blue Earth, Faribault and Waseca counties. This is a popular district where we have placed many children and always have applications on file awaiting attention. While doing the work of this district I took several extended trips into various parts of the state where more urgent work demanded attention; so that it was not completed till late in our fiscal year. I then worked in our Seventh, Tenth and Sixth districts successively.

During several weeks of this time, I went into communities only from which we had on file the greatest number of applications. This was with a view of opening homes rapidly—for we were receiving an unusual number of children into the school. Of course on these trips I visited the children already placed in the neighborhoods to which I went.

We rarely place a child in a home not personally visited by a regular agent of the school, and the wisdom of this practice is more and more apparent to me the longer I continue in the work.

It is not sufficient that homes shall be found willing to admit to their hearth-stones our children; but each individual must receive a thorough investigation as to reliability in every way. When his char-

acter, integrity and general competency are assured in a general way, his motives for taking a child must be learned with an effort toward infallibility commensurate with their importance to the child. Then details of home life, that are often impossible to learn if at all—except by one trained to observe trifles, are true exponents of large realities. Much of the general investigation of applicants may be, and is done by us through the office by means of letters written to responsible people in the neighborhood of the applicant. But such details as the housekeeping—so important in one taking a girl—is rarely mentioned unless indeed it be unspeakably poor.

To illustrate an extreme case of the remarkably essential things left out of replies to our letters of reference—we had an applicant not long since, whom every reference letter highly recommended. I learned nothing but good of the applicant in his nearest town. Within sight of his home I noted that the carpenters building a fine new barn were eating their noon dinners from lunch pails brought with them. Upon remarking to the driver that this looked strange at a farm house, he replied that “no one with any sense” would eat in that house—that the woman had been afflicted with an incurable eye trouble before her marriage, that her husband took it from her in a worse form and at one time had been practically blind, that their only child had the same trouble. It was easy to verify this by observation, and on returning to town I found that this serious condition was generally known but had become an old story and no one thought of mentioning it.

One of the problems in determining the fitness of applicants, in our state with its foreign population, is the cases of those who are accustomed for generations to keep in their homes, or have upon occasions of festivity, intoxicating liquors, in which they indulge without excess. Many of these homes are of unquestioned quality in other respects, and it is difficult for such applicants to see anything but unjust discrimination when we refuse to place with them the children whom indulgence in strong drink has brought to the State's care.

Often I am asked why it is necessary to go to the trouble and expense of visiting our hundreds of placed-out children, if we have carefully investigated the homes before the children were placed. Certainly many are the revelations as to the need of such visits and sometimes in quarters where human insight would least expect it.

Betrayal of his trust on the part of a guardian is frequently never revealed until discovered by an agent's visit. A young girl of thirteen years on being visited was found to be in great distress in a home in which in spite of a careful investigation we had made a mistake, remarked helplessly, “I do not know what I should do if the State school were not back of me.”

An exceptionally good, well-to-do farm home, developed in two years into a place of torment for one of our bright lads. Through a series of misfortunes the family had been reduced to straightened circumstances and the wife had become a nervous cynic, who added nagging to the unremitting tasks she required of the boy. His plight was discovered only by a regular visit.

An apparently excellent home, and one held in the highest esteem in the neighborhood in which it is located was not visited by us for some time because it was remote from the scene of our activities, and because

we always got good reports from adult sisters of the boy indentured there, who visited him semi-annually. Upon our first visit we found the boy a mere family drudge without adequate schooling or other advantages.

We aim to make our visits to both child and guardian that of a friend, bringing inspiration, confidence, and advice to the child who, in the nature of his condition, is without many and helpful friends. The guardian, too, often looks to us for assistance in direction and discipline of the older children.

Often we are able to keep a child in a home by means of a timely visit by an agent who may be able to adjust some misunderstanding or difficulty which if left uncorrected, might result in the loss of a good home to a worthy child. It is our aim always to visit a child during the first months of its establishment in a home that we may be of mutual assistance to both child and guardian in adjusting the changed conditions which should enrich the life of the latter and bring priceless returns to the most precious of the State's wards.

That our visits are appreciated by the children themselves is evidenced by a letter received recently by one of our agents from a boy of some twenty years whose name was long since stricken from our visiting list. He says, "I hear a lady from the school drove right by the place where I am living and never stopped. Queer you folks haven't time to visit a fellow once in a while."

I hope our agency force may be increased that we may visit oftener and be less hurried.

It is a great pleasure to place and visit the little ones under, say, five years old. These babies go into many of the best homes in the State and rarely fail to gain for themselves legal adoption which includes all love's heritage as well.

One man wrote of a tiny babe who had but just learned the art by which she won him, "She smiled a hole into our hearts and crept in."

Another man who had convinced himself that it would be difficult to find as pretty a baby as he would be willing to admit into his beautiful home was critical of the lovely child, whom his wife had bedecked in finery for his inspection. Now he shudders at the thought that he might have missed the "loveliest of children." He applies for a boy now and thinks his wife will be competent to decide upon the child's eligibility without his assistance.

A very young baby had been in its city home a week when I visited. They had a trained nurse teaching them the most approved methods of caring for this "wonder among babies," and the proud foster father found time to come home to noon-day lunch, though he had been unable to do so till the advent of the baby.

A physician recently instructed me to be on the lookout for a baby boy though he professed disbelief that it would be possible for them to find such a child as the girl we selected for them a few months ago.

But the proudest man I can recall just now, was one I visited a few days ago. He withstood his wife's pleadings for years, fearing they "would come to grief if they took and grew to love an inferior type of child." He feared there were no others to be had, unless it might be an orphan with no other relatives who might have taken it, and such a situation he thought improbable. Finally he left the baby boy to my choice and waived stipulations, except that it was to be bright and

healthy. I choose one with both parents living, but the new father says the quality of that boy is of the very best, and he proceeded to dilate upon his various characteristics. In the evening they continued the happy story, bringing the little man to my hotel. When the father, with tears of gratitude in his eyes, had said good-bye, he perched the "only boy in the world for me" upon a broad shoulder and as the three disappeared in the darkness, I heard a bass voice call back, "Don't forget that permission to adopt, we're in a great hurry for it."

These are not rare cases but practically all these most helpless ones build for themselves better than they know.

During the biennial period I have made 697 visits to children, investigated 514 applications for children; investigated 152 special cases of various kinds; I have transferred 23 children to other homes; accompanied 122 children from the school to their foster-homes; and accompanied 40 children to the school, about half of this number entered the school for the first time, and the other half were returned from family homes in which we had placed them.

Notwithstanding inevitable discouragements, I continue to find the work interesting, and full of hope and life itself to many children whose misfortune it was to lose their natural birthright, while numerous childless homes, are made to rejoice daily with the echo of happy voices adding their large share to the completeness of home-making. To note the happy developments is to transmute the weariness of the day's work into renewed energy and enthusiasm.

Respectfully submitted,

HANNAH SWINDLEHURST, Agent.

MR. JAGER'S REPORT.

Mr. Galen A. Merrill, Superintendent,

Dear Sir: I respectfully submit herewith a report of my agency work for the biennial period ending July 31, 1906.

During these two years my work has taken me all over the State, necessitating a travel of 20,000 miles by rail and 3,000 miles by team. On these trips I have visited and investigated 291 homes of people who wanted to take children from the school, and 375 homes where we already have children located. Of these last visits 122, or about one-third, have been special visits, taking me out of my regular course and away from my regular work to adjust some difficulty between the children and their guardians, or investigate some complaints of abuse, real or imaginary. This astonishingly large number of special cases indicates the problems of our work and the need of it. Had we been able to make regular visits more frequently many of these special trips, unpleasant and expensive, would have been unnecessary. To attempt a reduction in our agency expenses means either a greatly increased expense in the near future, or else demoralization among our wards and failure in our work.

Strange as it may seem the difficulty of keeping our boys settled in homes is greater in prosperous than in hard times. The demand for help and the high wages make them restless and dissatisfied with the arrange-

ments we have made for them and often induce them to leave their homes, ignore their obligations and being too young and inexperienced to avoid the pitfalls of what seems to them a glorious freedom and prosperity, they take the first step towards making their life a failure.

Under our present industrial conditions I doubt the wisdom of uniform indenture contracts for all our children. The majority of people who take the older children, take them for work and though they may give them a good home the impulse of charity is secondary and depends entirely on the merits of the child. This is proven by the fact that as soon as the child becomes either unprofitable or unruly they, as a rule, refuse to keep it and wish to shift the responsibility. Of course there is danger that if we emphasize wages the guardians will emphasize work rather than care, but many of them do that anyhow and most of the large boys and girls do not appreciate that they are any care to anybody nor that the responsibility of properly bringing them up is worth anything. Our boys reason that since Tommy Brown, who works for a neighbor and who is no older, no larger, and works no harder than they do, gets \$15.00 a month they could get the same if they were free while now they get only \$75.00 at the end of several years of service and the boy who does well gets no more than the one doing poorly. Our present school laws are also too rigid for enforcement. If every day attendance was required up to the age of 15 and after that four or five months winter school and a graduate wage scale, I think, it would result in better law enforcement and more schooling for the children. As to the present law not one violation in a hundred receives successful attention. School boards and superintendents can do little more than public sentiment among their constituents will favor. In one district where we have several children I found a school house with a seating capacity of thirty while there was in actual attendance fifty pupils. I had three more applications for children, but refused to consider them until better school facilities were provided. It is difficult to secure for our children what people deny their own.

While scarcity of help contributes to our difficulties, as above mentioned, there is on the other hand the advantage of having more places to choose from. Then again prosperity causes greater willingness among people to take the young and helpless children. It is surprising, and often discouraging, to see how many good childless homes there are in this State, who with mistaken selfishness are barred against the homeless child and the blessing it could bring to such a home. It is the home of moderate means more often than the well-to-do home that craves the presence of children and considers them, not as a burden, but as a blessing.

I have spoken mostly of the larger children, since they are the ones that require most of our thoughts and furnish us with our problems. Much more might, with greater pleasure, be said about the younger children and the fortunate ones who as babies find their way into the hearts and homes of good people where they take their places as own children and receive every possible advantage. These cases, and there are hundreds of them, are the ones that inspire new hope and courage in the heart of the visitor and make him forget his troubles and also make him feel that the time, effort and expense spent in bringing together these children and foster-parents, has yielded a large return on the investment.

I consider it a very serious matter to take children from their natural parents and yet I am sure that, with scarcely an exception, the children sent to us have been greatly benefited by the change. I have full faith in the plans and methods of our work, but realize that a closer relation between the school and the children in homes would greatly increase the success of it by raising the standard of citizenship among our maturing children. This would require more frequent visits, an impossible thing with our present number of agents.

The expense of my work for this period has been \$3,618.59, an average of \$5.41 per visit, divided as follows: Railroad, \$428.51; hotel, \$388.62; livery, \$286.25; telegraph and telephone, \$8.10; children's fares and incidentals, \$92.16; salary, \$2,400.00.

Respectfully submitted,

H. J. JAGER, State Agent.

MRS. LEWIS' REPORT.

Mr. Galen A. Merrill, Superintendent,

Dear Sir: I respectfully submit herewith a report of my work as State Agent for the biennial period ending July 31, 1906.

In looking and thinking over my work of the past two years as traveling agent for the State Public School it seems to me there has been a warmer reception in the hearts of the people to whom I have taken our children than previously, and I can recall but one instance in which there was any hesitancy whatever in accepting the child selected. In that one case "her eyes were not just the right shade and her hair was not curly." But that is no great fault on the part of those who have thought long and seriously about taking a child, for after deciding that question they begin to picture what kind of a child they want, and very soon the imagination settles upon one who will suit the fancy. But alas! when we come to face the fact there is always some little deficiency somewhere, so no wonder a little disappointment is experienced, but to one who has the right motive in taking a child these little obstacles are quickly overcome.

While I enjoy taking the older children, my greatest pleasure is in taking the babies, and there are many that I remember as beautiful babies, placed in lovely homes. There is such a comfortable satisfaction in leaving them in such good homes where we know they will be fondly reared.

It often happens that we are not able to accompany the children all the way, especially when there are several taken at the same time. In such cases we go far enough to help them make any changes that are necessary, and the people to whom they are assigned seldom fail to meet them at their destination. The railroad people, too, are uniformly kind and helpful in such cases, and their help is very much appreciated.

While my principal work is that of accompanying children to homes as well as to and from our own local station, it has been my duty also to visit and investigate the homes of some applicants.

During this period I have accompanied 171 children. To accomplish this work I have traveled 18,591 miles, besides some team work. My expenses, including salary, have been \$735.87, making a per capita of \$4.30.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. FRANK LEWIS, State Agent.

REPORT OF DAY SCHOOL.

Mr. Galen A. Merrill, Superintendent,

Dear Sir: Our schools are now well under way for the year. Every room is crowded, the children being seated at tables and on chairs in the corners, and a small waiting-list is still in the cottages, being put in as fast as possible.

The kindergarten has a full attendance of little people, on the whole a nice bright set of children, with fewer deficient ones than usual.

School 1 is also full. Three classes are carried on here,—the lowest ones, just above the kindergarten, doing much hand-work, and beginning to get ideas as to the three R's. The second class does more reading and number work, while the third set are doing full first-grade work. Wheeler's, Cyr's, Werner's and other primers are used in this department and the number work is mostly oral and blackboard work.

This room is far too full, it seats 54, too many for any teacher, and is always crowded. There should be another room between this and School 2, so that the teacher could do more individual work with the children.

School 2 is at present employed in second and third-grade work. The highest class is doing advanced third-grade work, and the other two are busy with what are known as A and B second-grade studies. Harper's and Cyr's readers, and the "Stepping-stones to Literature" series, are used for reading. Prince's arithmetic, with much blackboard work, is the basis of arithmetic-work. Language is given in connection with all work, and literature centers just now in myths and fables, and an absorbing interest is shown in "Those old gods and goddesses."

School 3 embraces all the children above the third-grade, and the work is necessarily crowded, but at present the lowest class is doing full fourth-grade work, and the highest seventh-grade. Several children who have recently gone out from the A class have entered seventh-grade in the public schools without difficulty.

In this room are several crippled children, who will probably remain here until fitted for the high school. Some of them are very bright and will do well. This school is studying history, geography, literature, English, arithmetic and grammar, using various books, among them McMaster's and Montgomery's histories, White's arithmetics, Whitney and Lockwood's English Grammar, "The Mother Tongue," by Arnold and Kittredge, and Rochelean's Commercial Geography. The study of the advanced classes is largely topical, and many other books are used and consulted.

The sloyd-room is well equipped with tools and material, and the work is planned for both boys and girls. This work arouses great enthusiasm and a glimpse of a class hard at work on Christmas presents is a pretty thing. Often boys and girls who take no interest in any other form of school work develop great ingenuity and perseverance in the sloyd-room, and we believe this cannot fail to have its effects on character. A large case of pretty things left by departing children shows the extent and variety possible in this work.

The sewing department has in its classes every girl above the kindergarten who is able to be in school at all, except a few whose eyes are in

such condition as to make sewing an imprudence. The older classes meet twice a week, and the little ones once. The larger girls are able to make their own underwear, and will soon be advanced to dresses and skirts. They have made quantities of table linen, towels, sheets and pillow cases, gowns and corset covers, and some of them are able to run the machine with fair results. They can make button holes, patch and darn, and are otherwise being trained in the art that all women should know.

Some of the boys also show a marked desire to acquire the ability to sew, and sometimes we question, "Why not?" In the kindergarten boys handle needle and thread with delightful dexterity and why should it not be followed up?

Our children need much hand-work, and indeed we are beginning to realize how much all children need it. As one well-known teacher said recently, "We have been so long blind to the needs of the children's hungry hands!" The hand-work stimulates a slow brain, arouses the impulse for creative work, and applies the principles learned from books in a way that nothing else in a child's life can do, particularly children whose lives are so restricted as those of our children must necessarily be.

This report would perhaps be incomplete without mention of the little monthly programs given by the children, which are to them great occasions. These afford an opportunity for memorizing choice bits of literature, and sometimes for little attempts at original writing. One such program has already been given this term and the next one will be in connection with Thanksgiving. The children's interest in these occasions is greatly stimulated by occasionally seeing the grown-up people in their audience.

Our schools vary so much that in six weeks' time our grades may be entirely changed, but at present the classes are fairly well-graded, and most of them doing good work.

Respectfully submitted,

SARAH B. GOODMAN, Principal.

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

Mr. Galen A. Merrill, Superintendent,

Dear Sir: Herewith I present my report as Physician of the school for the biennial period ending July 31, 1906. During this time six hundred sixty-seven children have received hospital care and treatment for varying lengths of time, irrespective of the large number of out-patients, whose ailments have been of so slight a nature as to allow them to continue their residence in their respective cottages.

There have been twenty deaths among the children in the school for the period covered by this report, or a mortality of 3.3 percent for all cases of illness.

The causes of death in each case will be found in the tabulated statement of diseases forming part of this report.

In the spring of 1905 an epidemic of measles of an exceedingly severe type occurred in the school, a total of eighty-eight children contracting the disease. Out of this number there were eight deaths either directly from the primary disease or from some of its complications,

notably broncho-pneumonia, which is notoriously fatal when occurring in connection with measles especially in children under two years of age. The modification in the original law permitting the reception of children of all ages introduces a new factor in the medical department, and one of the greatest importance, concerned as it is with the care of infants practically from their birth.

It is exceedingly difficult to deal in a successful way with these little morsels of humanity, where, as is now the case, they must be cared for collectively, and in groups, instead of individually. Each one is a problem in itself, requiring far more attention, and study, than is demanded for several of the older groups of children, all of whom can be successfully dealt with in a collective manner.

The greatest percentage of mortality occurs in children under two years of age, reaching its maximum during the nursing period, when the diet must be so often changed, to meet the varying capabilities of the infant's digestive powers.

The present quarters for our babies, used as such since the fire of three years ago, are inadequate and we hope for considerable benefit from the contemplated change to a more commodious building. In this connection I would recommend the installation at an early date of a milk separating and sterilizing plant, in order that the most troublesome question of infant feeding may be more satisfactorily adjusted.

Our experience has convinced me that the method of receiving children, without compelling them to undergo a preliminary period of quarantine, is fraught with danger to the health of the institution. I am satisfied that contagious diseases have been fairly well disseminated in this way on several occasions and for this reason we have decided to return to the former method whereby a child on admission was maintained in comparative isolation until such time as he was deemed safe to mingle with the rest of the population.

It is perhaps not amiss in this connection to say that the certificates of health received with the children from the various county officials sometimes show a lack of regard for the requirements of the law governing the admission of the children to the school.

Diphtheria as in the past still continues to give trouble, but the modern methods of dealing with the disease have robbed it of many of its terrors, and it becomes easily controlled, in the main, although carrying with it at times an uncomfortable degree of mortality.

The sanitation of the buildings and grounds has been improved in several particulars since my former report, and there is contemplated a general replacing of the original plumbing, with the most modern appliances of their kind.

Respectfully,

J. H. ADAIR, Physician.

STATISTICAL TABLES

TABLE NO. 1.

Abstract of Farm Account for Year Ending July 31, 1905.

To inventory August 1, 1904 (including greenhouse)	\$6,121.70	
To charges from current fund, farm.....	1,930.59	
To charges from current fund, attendance.....	1,608.86	
By produce furnished		\$3,847.24
By inventory August 1, 1905		5,732.72
Deficit		81.19
Totals	\$9,661.15	\$9,661.15

Abstract of Farm Account for Year Ending July 31, 1906.

To inventory August 1, 1905.....	\$5,732.72	
To charges from current fund, farm	2,515.70	
To charges from current fund, attendance	1,697.73	
By produce furnished		\$3,445.18
By inventory August 1, 1906		5,948.77
Deficit		552.20
	\$9,946.15	\$9,946.15

TABLE NO. 2.

Showing Cost of Caring for All Wards.

Year	Cost of Maintaining the School	Cost of State Agency	Total Cost	Aver. No. in School and Homes Under Supervision	Per Capita Cost
1886-87.....	\$7,851.50	.....	\$7,851.50	44	\$178.44
1887-88.....	15,421.18	.....	15,421.18	101	152.68
1888-89.....	20,387.42	\$344.25	20,731.67	179	115.82
1889-90.....	21,394.03	1,438.43	22,832.46	286	79.83
1890-91.....	22,170.30	1,696.70	23,867.00	389	61.35
1891-92.....	23,212.70	1,893.64	25,106.34	524	47.91
1892-93.....	27,302.83	1,948.32	29,251.15	609	48.03
1893-94.....	29,203.46	3,048.03	32,251.49	722	44.67
1894-95.....	36,816.89	3,554.06	40,370.95	887	45.51
1895-96.....	36,807.30	3,577.91	40,385.21	982	41.13
1896-97.....	32,760.43	3,038.87	35,799.30	1,077	33.24
1897-98.....	38,239.20	2,918.25	41,157.45	1,228	35.52
1898-99.....	37,948.34	4,357.31	42,305.65	1,298	32.59
1899-00.....	37,311.88	5,966.56	43,308.44	1,332	32.52
1900-01.....	42,650.60	5,620.83	48,271.43	1,375	35.10
1901-02.....	36,634.46	5,637.03	42,271.49	1,393	30.35
1902-03.....	41,201.49	5,840.63	47,042.12	1,408	33.41
1903-04.....	42,290.17	6,306.19	48,596.36	1,389	34.98
1904-05.....	43,630.39	6,319.83	49,950.22	1,417	35.25
1905-06.....	43,494.50	6,378.88	49,873.38	1,488	33.52

TABLE NO. 3.

Detail of State Agents' Accounts for Two Years.

	1904-05	1905-06	Total
Railroad and street car fares.....	\$1,028.64	\$1,107.43	\$2,136.07
Livery and bus	585.02	529.00	1,114.02
Board	746.20	812.05	1,558.25
Books, stationery, printing	21.00	.....	21.00
Incidentals	10.40	45.50	55.90
Postage and telegraphing	15.07	13.65	28.72
Salaries	3,785.00	3,870.00	7,655.00
Court expenses	128.50	1.25	129.75
Total	\$6,319.83	\$6,378.88	\$12,698.71
July 31, 1904:			
On hand			\$661.52
Appropriation 1904-05			7,000.00
Expense state agency		\$6,319.83	
Transferred to current expenses		1,341.69	
Total		\$7,661.52	\$7,661.52
July 31, 1905:			
Appropriation 1905-06			\$7,500.00
Expense state agency		\$6,378.88	
On hand		1,121.12	
Total		\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
	1904-05	1905-06	
Average number subject to supervision	1,417	1,488	
Number of visits made	1,388	1,393	
Expense as above	\$6,319.83	\$6,378.88	
Per capita cost of visits made.....	4.55	4.57	

TABLE NO. 4.

Number of Children Received Each Year Since the School Opened.

	Boys	Girls	Total
Eight months ending July 31, 1887.....	43	28	71
Year ending July 31, 1888.....	46	27	73
Year ending July 31, 1889.....	72	31	103
Year ending July 31, 1890.....	72	46	118
Year ending July 31, 1891.....	90	68	158
Year ending July 31, 1892.....	85	49	134
Year ending July 31, 1893.....	81	69	150
Year ending July 31, 1894.....	137	65	202
Year ending July 31, 1895.....	149	75	224
Year ending July 31, 1896.....	82	48	130
Year ending July 31, 1897.....	118	85	203
Year ending July 31, 1898.....	134	85	219
Year ending July 31, 1899.....	76	59	135
Year ending July 31, 1900.....	100	62	162
Year ending July 31, 1901.....	101	66	167
Year ending July 31, 1902.....	95	64	159
Year ending July 31, 1903.....	92	61	153
Year ending July 31, 1904.....	87	62	149
Year ending July 31, 1905.....	150	112	262
Year ending July 31, 1906.....	145	117	262
Total	1,955	1,279	3,234

TABLE NO. 5.

County	Received Previous to Aug. 1, 1904		Received Year ending July 31, 1905		Received Year ending July 31, 1906		Total Received	Number Placed
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		
Aitkin .....	....	....	4	6	1	....	11	3
Anoka	15	8	....	....	....	....	23	25
Becker	14	6	1	3	....	2	26	9
Beltrami	8	9	1	1	11	7	37	1
Benton	16	6	....	....	2	1	25	2
Big Stone	11	3	....	....	....	....	14	15
Blue Earth	14	16	1	2	1	....	34	79
Brown	5	2	....	....	1	1	9	39
Carleton	1	2	1	....	....	....	4	2
Carver	4	....	....	....	....	....	4	9
Cass	12	8	4	10	3	4	41	3
Chippewa	3	6	4	....	....	....	13	5
Chisago	15	4	2	....	....	....	21	6
Clay	3	4	....	....	....	....	7	4
Clearwater .....	....	....	2	1	1	....	4	....
Cottonwood	6	4	4	3	....	....	17	15
Cook .....	....	....	....	....	6	2	8	5
Crow Wing	35	15	5	1	1	2	59	8
Dakota	22	6	....	....	1	1	30	33
Dodge	9	11	....	3	....	....	23	73
Douglas	19	21	5	2	....	....	47	12
Faribault	5	1	....	1	3	3	13	143
Fillmore	10	13	3	2	....	....	28	38
Freeborn	15	7	....	1	1	4	28	87
Goodhue	31	27	....	....	2	2	62	45
Grant	11	7	....	....	....	....	18	....
Hennepin	519	303	25	21	24	29	921	324
Houston	9	6	1	1	....	....	17	2

TABLE No. 5—Continued

County	Received Previous to Aug. 1, 1904		Received Year ending July 31, 1905		Received Year ending July 31, 1906		Total Received	Number Placed
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		
Hubbard	3	....	....	....	4	1	8	5
Isanti	5	4	....	....	....	....	9	2
Itasca	1	2	....	....	....	....	3	53
Jackson	3	2	....	....	....	....	5	9
Kanabec	5	2	....	1	....	....	8	6
Kandiyohi	3	....	3	....	....	....	6	4
Kittson .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	12
Lac qui Parle..	2	....	....	....	1	....	3	2
Lake	2	5	....	....	1	....	8	69
Le Sueur	5	9	....	....	1	4	19	9
Lincoln	7	2	....	....	....	....	9	45
Lyon	17	13	....	....	3	....	33	18
McLeod	6	2	....	....	....	....	8	2
Marshall	2	....	2	2	....	....	6	11
Martin	6	3	....	....	....	....	9	5
Meeker	4	3	....	....	2	2	11	6
Mille Lacs	11	12	....	....	....	....	23	11
Morrison	8	9	5	4	....	....	26	30
Mower	23	15	....	....	1	....	39	25
Murray	9	2	....	....	....	....	11	19
Nicollet	15	7	....	....	....	....	22	73
Nobles	16	14	....	....	1	....	31	1
Norman	6	5	....	1	....	....	12	52
Olmsted	21	22	....	....	1	1	45	61
Otter Tail	104	57	5	3	4	2	175	6
Pine	12	11	2	1	....	....	26	7
Pipestone	2	3	....	....	....	....	5	13
Polk	21	12	1	4	1	....	39	5
Pope	11	12	....	....	....	....	23	93
Ramsey	160	68	24	10	31	20	313	2
Red Lake	1	....	....	....	....	....	1	93
Redwood	9	11	3	2	1	2	28	33
Renville	10	2	....	....	2	....	14	127
Rice	41	27	3	3	1	1	76	12
Rock	5	1	....	....	....	....	6	2
Roseau .....	....	1	1	....	....	....	2	14
Scott .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	20
Sherburne	8	3	....	....	....	....	11	10
Sibley .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	53
St. Louis	87	59	23	15	21	14	219	26
Stearns	27	15	3	....	1	8	54	203
Steele	21	26	2	1	1	1	52	16
Stevens	2	....	....	....	....	....	2	18
Swift	4	3	....	....	....	....	7	17
Todd	24	15	4	....	3	....	46	1
Traverse	1	3	....	....	....	....	4	35
Wabasha	11	15	....	....	....	2	28	19
Wadena	11	6	1	3	5	1	27	211
Waseca	9	3	2	....	1	....	15	15
Washington ...	21	20	2	....	....	....	43	4
Watonwan	4	4	....	....	....	....	8	3
Wilkin	2	1	....	....	....	....	3	32
Winona	44	34	1	4	....	....	83	19
Wright	14	7	....	....	....	....	21	20
Yellow Medicine	4	1	....	....	....	....	5	
Totals	1,662	1,048	150	112	145	117	3,234	2,653

IN OTHER STATES.

Alabama	1	Nebraska	5
California	5	North Dakota	23
Canada	3	New York	3
Colorado	2	Oregon	2
Connecticut	1	Oklahoma	1
Florida	1	Pennsylvania	5
Illinois	16	South Dakota	59
Indiana	3	Utah	1
Idaho	1	Vermont	1
Iowa	70	Virginia	3
Kansas	1	Washington	11
Kentucky	1	West Virginia	1
Massachusetts	3	Wisconsin	39
Michigan	5		
Missouri	5	Total in states.....	278
Montana	6		

In Minnesota	2,653
In other states	278

Total 2,931

Present in the institution July 31, 1906, died and returned to counties because not proper children for this school, and self-support- ing and not located	303
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Total 3,234

With few exceptions, the children in other states were originally placed in Minnesota, and the families with whom they lived have since removed.

TABLE NO. 6.

DISPOSITION MADE OF ALL CHILDREN RECEIVED SINCE OPENING.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
In homes on trial	41	33	74
In homes on indenture	750	494	1,244
Returned to counties	84	55	139
Returned to parents	98	50	148
Died	84	40	124
Adopted in district court	37	80	117
Attained majority	733	429	1,162
Married, not included in above .....	...	28	28
Present July 31, 1906	130	68	198
Number received July 31, 1906	1,957	1,277	3,234

TABLE No. 7.

Nationality of all Children.

	Number	Per cent
American	1,085	.335
American (Indian).....	16	.004
American (Negro).....	80	.024
Austrian	15	.004
English	99	.0306
French	163	.0503
Finn	58	.0179
Irish	235	.072
Italian	17	.005
German	501	.154
Dutch	10	.003
Hungarian	5	.0015
Bohemian	36	.011
Polish	53	.016
Russian	12	.0037
Scandinavian (Swede, Norwegian, Dane).....	761	.235
Swiss	15	.004
Scotch	67	.0277
Welsh	5	.0015
Syrian	1	.0003
Total	3,234	
The Hebrew race, not indicated by nationalities above represented	12	

TABLE No. 8.

Status of Children as to Parents.

	Previous to Aug. 1, 1904.	Year end- ing, July 31, 1905.	Year end- ing July 31, 1906	Totals
Orphans	167	9	4	180
Half orphans	1,188	125	80	1,393
Both parents living	1,355	128	178	1,661
Totals	2,710	262	262	3,234
Deserted by father	816	73	106	995
Deserted by mother	112	9	10	131
Deserted by both parents	156	14	15	185
Totals	1,084	96	131	1,311

TABLE No. 9.

Ages of Children When Received at the School.

	Previous to Aug. 1, 1904		Year ending July 31, 1905		Year ending July 31, 1906		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Under 1 year	26	17	9	12	14	22	49	51
Between 1 and 2 years ..	21	26	6	5	7	4	34	35
Between 2 and 3 years ..	81	50	8	6	12	10	101	66
Between 3 and 4 years ..	95	67	9	5	5	5	109	77
Between 4 and 5 years ..	100	64	9	11	13	9	122	84
Between 5 and 6 years ..	113	59	6	6	8	6	127	71
Between 6 and 7 years ..	141	79	14	10	12	10	167	99
Between 7 and 8 years ..	115	88	13	6	10	7	138	101
Between 8 and 9 years ..	167	109	13	8	19	9	199	126
Between 9 and 10 years ..	172	92	6	8	7	11	185	111
Between 10 and 11 years ..	175	95	13	8	10	2	198	105
Between 11 and 12 years ..	144	79	10	8	9	7	163	94
Between 12 and 13 years ..	135	92	15	7	7	6	157	105
Between 13 and 14 years ..	107	74	12	5	7	4	126	83
Between 14 and 15 years ..	53	53	5	5	3	4	61	62
Between 15 and 16 years ..	15	6	2	2	1	1	18	9
Between 16 and 17 years .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....
Totals	1,660	1,050	150	112	145	117	1,955	1,279
Totals, boys and girls	2,710		262		262		3,234	
Average age, 6 years.								

TABLE No. 10.

Ages of Children Present July 31, 1906.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Under 1 year	4	3	7
Between 1 and 2 years	5	1	6
Between 2 and 3 years	7	2	9
Between 3 and 4 years	5	1	6
Between 4 and 5 years	12	7	19
Between 5 and 6 years	17	1	18
Between 6 and 7 years	13	2	15
Between 7 and 8 years	15	2	17
Between 8 and 9 years	12	7	19
Between 9 and 10 years	8	6	14
Between 10 and 11 years	4	5	9
Between 11 and 12 years	2	4	6
Between 12 and 13 years	8	9	17
Between 13 and 14 years	6	7	13
Between 14 and 15 years	3	6	9
Between 15 and 16 years	5	4	9
Between 16 and 17 years	4	1	5
Present July 31, 1906	130	68	198
Average age, 7.9 years.			

TABLE No. 11

Mortality at the School and in Homes, and Causes of Death.

In School	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	Totals
Cancrum oris							1				1		1							2
Consumption		1											1							3
Diphtheria		1	2	1	1		1	1		1	1				1		3		2	15
Diabetes							1													1
Drowned																		1		1
Eclampsia															1		1			2
Enterocolitis																		1		1
Bright's disease																		1		1
General debility		1																		1
Heart disease																		1		1
Influenza								1												1
Laryngitis, acute																		1		1
Measles															1	1		4		6
Meningitis	1										1							1		4
Membranous laryngitis			1				3	1	1											6
Nephritis												1	1			1				4
Peritonitis							1										1			1
Pneumonia		1		1		1		1	1		4			2	1	1		5		18
Pyæmia																				1
Splenic anaemia									1											1
Scarlet fever																	2			2
Tuberculosis																		2	1	3
Inanition																		2	1	3
Totals	1	4	3	2	1	1	8	4	4	1	7	1	2	2	5	2	8	15	6	77
In Homes																				
Accidental blow in stomach				1																1
Asthma												1								1
Appendicitis													1							1
Blood poisoning	1																			1
Cramps																			1	1
Cholera infantum																				1
Consumption																		1		1
Diphtheria		1											1				1	1		5
Drowned						1														1
Epilepsy						1														1
Freezing									1											1
Heart disease														1						2
Inanition																		1		1
Jaundice																	1			1
Kicked by horse								1												1
La grippe			1																	1
Lockjaw													1							1
Membranous croup							1													1
Meningitis												1		1						1
Opium poisoning											1									1
Peritonitis									1	1										3
Pneumonia												1					1			2
Purpura hemorrhagica													1							1
Rheumatism							1								1					2
Run over by cars										1										1
Shot accidentally								1				1			1					3
Struck by lightning													1							1
Sunstroke													1	1						1
Tuberculosis									1											2
Tonsils removed																	1			1
Unknown												1						2		3
Abscess in head														1						1
Brain fever																				1
Totals	1	1	1	1		2	2	3	3	2	1	5	4	4	4		2	6	5	47
Total in school and homes	2	5	4	3	1	3	10	7	7	3	8	6	6	6	9	2	10	21	11	124

TABLE No. 12.

Number of Months' Residence of Children at the School.

Months	Number	Months	Number	Months	Number	Months	Number
144	1	76	2	49	4	23	37
133	1	75	1	48	8	22	31
122	1	74	1	47	8	21	37
120	1	73	1	46	8	20	44
111	1	72	5	45	7	19	40
110	1	71	3	44	9	18	50
106	1	70	5	43	10	17	51
105	2	69	4	42	12	16	50
101	1	68	1	41	9	15	62
99	2	67	7	40	15	14	84
98	3	66	6	39	9	13	88
95	3	64	3	38	20	12	83
94	3	63	2	37	11	11	90
93	2	62	5	36	10	10	100
89	1	61	2	35	25	9	121
88	1	60	4	34	10	8	124
87	1	59	8	33	6	7	135
86	1	58	6	32	10	6	180
85	1	57	7	31	20	5	175
83	2	56	12	30	18	4	232
82	1	55	3	29	17	3	270
81	1	54	8	28	16	2	275
80	4	53	11	27	15	1	163
79	2	52	7	26	25	*	176
78	1	51	7	25	33		
77	2	50	4	24	35		
41		125		370		2,698	

Average time of residence at the school, 15 months.

*Less than one month.

Average time of residence at the school, from the date of admission to date of being placed out the first time, 6.05 months.

